

HONORING WOMEN VETERANS

(Ms. GIFFORDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, March is Women's History Month, and I rise today to pay tribute to the women who have served our country with honor and distinction. Women such as Major General Susan Lawrence, the commander of the Army's Netcom and 9th Signal Command at Fort Huachuca. She is a true inspiration to soldiers in Arizona and women everywhere.

Women such as Lori Piestewa, a U.S. Army soldier killed during an attack in Iraq in 2003. A member of the Hopi tribe, she was born and raised in Arizona and became the first woman in the U.S. Armed Forces killed in Iraq and the first Native American woman to die in combat while serving in the United States military. And women such as Air Force Lieutenant Meredith Doran. Working from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, she is an aircraft traffic controller involved in the Haitian earthquake relief effort underway today.

Women have voluntarily served in every conflict since the early days of the Revolutionary War, and their significant accomplishments are often overlooked. Every day, women fly jets in combat, engage enemies on the battlefield, and will soon also serve alongside their male counterparts on submarines.

This month and all year long, we should recognize and remember the service, sacrifice, and the lives of the women in our United States Armed Forces and everything that they have given to our country.

□ 1015

UNSUSTAINABLE HEALTH CARE COSTS

(Ms. JENKINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JENKINS. Health care costs are unsustainable. They are bankrupting families. They are bankrupting small businesses, and if they are not reformed, they will bankrupt our government. No one denies we need reform, but what Americans do not want is for D.C. politicians to centralize health care decisions in Washington and create another entitlement program when everyone knows we haven't paid for the entitlements we already have.

Instead, what Americans need are reforms that actually reduce health care costs for families, help folks with pre-existing conditions, and make it easier for small businesses to provide health care. The American people have rejected a government takeover of health care. So I urge my colleagues to support commonsense plans to fix what's broken without throwing out the rule book and without destroying what works for millions.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on the motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record vote on the postponed question will be taken later.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE
OF THE CENSUS AND NATIVE
AMERICAN PARTICIPATION

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1086) recognizing the importance and significance of the 2010 Census and encouraging each community within the Indian Country to name an elder to be the first member of that community to answer the 2010 Census.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1086

Recognizing the importance and significance of the 2010 Census and encouraging each community within the Indian Country to name an elder to be the first member of that community to answer the 2010 Census.

Whereas the decennial census is a responsibility of the Federal Government, mandated by article I, section 2 of the Constitution;

Whereas, in the 2000 Census, 4.3 million people, or 1.5 percent of the total United States population, stated that they were American Indian or Alaska Native;

Whereas, in the 2000 Census, 2.4 million people, or 1 percent of the United States population, stated that they were solely American Indian or Alaska Native;

Whereas Native Americans are the descendants of the aboriginal, indigenous, native people who were the original inhabitants of and who governed the lands that now constitute the United States;

Whereas the 2010 Census data is strictly confidential and Federal law prevents the information from being shared with any entity;

Whereas the 2010 Census is quick, safe, and easy to complete;

Whereas the census is a source of data on a number of issues of national importance, such as school attendance, educational attainment, and employment;

Whereas areas are underserved by the Federal Government if significant portions of the population, especially those in low-income and minority neighborhoods, fail to participate in the census;

Whereas full participation in the census is necessary to ensure an accurate depiction of the population of the United States;

Whereas, April 1, 2010, is the date for the 2010 Census;

Whereas the San Manuel Band Serrano Mission Indians in California propose to name an elder to be the first member of that community to answer the 2010 Census;

Whereas it is hoped that the naming of an elder to be the first member of that community to answer the 2010 Census will encourage other members of that community to answer the 2010 Census;

Whereas it is hoped that each other community within the Indian Country will name

an elder to be the first member of their community to answer the 2010 Census;

Whereas elders are looked upon as the trusted ones in the tribe who will have the most influence in carrying the message of how important an accurate 2010 Census count is; and

Whereas elder participation in the 2010 Census count will encourage others to participate in the 2010 Census: Now, therefore, be it;

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the importance and significance of the 2010 census and encourages full participation in this critical process; and

(2) encourages each community within the Indian Country to name an elder to be the first member of that community to answer the 2010 Census.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. BACA) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. BACA).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous materials thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today I rise in strong support of House Resolution 1086, a resolution that recognizes the importance and significance of the 2010 census and encourages each community within Indian Country to name an elder to be the first member of that community to answer the 2010 census.

I would like to thank the majority leader, STENY HOYER; Chairman ED TOWNS; and Ranking Member DARRELL ISSA for their support of this resolution that was introduced on February 22, 2010. I also want to recognize all committee staff and my personal staff for their hard work on this. I also would like to take the time to thank my colleagues in the House of Representatives for their bipartisan support, because it is a bipartisan bill that is good for all of us.

This resolution serves to raise the awareness of the importance of the 2010 census count and urges Indian Country to name an elder to be the first person to complete the 2010 census from each tribe. That shows respect and dignity for that elder. An accurate census count is very important because the data gathered will determine the allocations of dollars to State, local, and tribal governments.

Census data can help tribal leaders understand what their community needs are. Many tribal communities use census information to attract new businesses and plan for growth in the future. In fact, many tribes and tribal organizations use census data to plan